

**July 2007 –**

Colleagues,

This is your regular update on Governor Granholm's cutting edge No Worker Left Behind free tuition initiative -- plus all the news on Michigan's programs to help Michigan workers get training and new jobs and to help Michigan employers find great workers for their job openings.

In today's update:

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## **1. No Worker Left Behind to Take Flight August 1**

Governor Granholm's vision of providing educational opportunities to workers dislocated by Michigan's stormy economic seas is about to become a reality on August 1. That's when unemployed and low income Michigan workers will be able to go into their local Michigan Works! and sign up for the program. If they agree to get assessed and agree to take courses towards a certificate or degree in a high demand occupation, emerging or growing sector, or entrepreneurship, the state will pay their tuition up to certain caps. Michiganders interested in the program should contact their local Michigan Works! agency, call **1-800-285-WORKS** (9675) or visit [www.michigan.gov/nwlb](http://www.michigan.gov/nwlb).

### **No Worker Left Behind Action Team**

Given the intense amount of work necessary to launch a new initiative like No Worker Left Behind, DLEG has created a No Worker Left Behind Action Team to work 24/7 on making the Governor's dream a reality. The team consists of Stephanie Beckhorn, Diana Carpenter and Patty Vanaman from the Bureau of Workforce Programs and Dan Dykstra from the Director's Office. Please join me in thanking the team members for accepting this challenge, and give them your full cooperation as we create this new program together.

### **No Worker Left Behind Regional Trainings**

The Action Team has been busy working with leaders and staff from community colleges, Michigan Works, and other partners to prepare to launch No Worker Left Behind. They have conducted an initial round of regional trainings in Escanaba (July 17), Kalamazoo (July 19), Dearborn (July 20) and Lansing (July 24). The last training will take place in Gaylord at the M-TEC at Kirtland Comm. Coll. on July 26.

Anyone who has questions about the No Worker Left Behind initiative should contact the team at 517-335-1319 or [nwlb@michigan.gov](mailto:nwlb@michigan.gov).

## **2. Council for Labor & Economic Growth – New Membership, New Lead Staffer**

I am pleased to announce that Governor Granholm has appointed four new CLEG members, that we have four new legislative members, and that we have named DLEG's Alisande Henry to serve as the top staff person supporting CLEG. We're on a roll!

Governor Granholm has appointed four prominent Michiganders to join our group:

- George E. Bennett of Suttons Bay. George has been the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, serving over fourteen years. He is now retired and will represent the one-stop partner - Native American sector on the council.

- Paul C. Bergan of Eau Claire is the Regional Director of Career and Technical Education for Berrien County Intermediate School District. Paul has served as President of the Michigan Council of Vocational Administrators, and is a member of the Association for Career and Technical Education, Michigan Career Leadership Network and is an elected member of the Board of Trustees at Lake Michigan College. Paul will represent the workforce investment activities sector.
- Thomas E. Kimble of Clarkston is an executive council member of AARP of Michigan. Tom recently retired from General Motors after serving as Vice-Chairman of the General Motors Foundation and Director of GM's Global Philanthropic Administration. He will represent the business sector.
- Cindy L. Warner of Traverse City is General Manager of Northpointe Food Ventures and Senior Vice President of Global Technology Services for Salesforce.com. Cindy will also represent the business sector.

Click [here](#) to read the News Release.

The leaders of the Michigan House of Representatives have named two of their members to join our ranks: Representative Ed Clemente, a Wayne County Democrat from District 14 who serves on the Banking and Financial Services, Commerce, Energy and Technology, Ethics and Elections, and New Economy and Quality of Life committees; and Representative Bill Huizenga, an Ottawa County Republican from District 90 who serves on the Commerce, Energy and Technology, and New Economy and Quality of Life committees.

Lt. Governor John Cherry recently appointed two members of the Michigan State Senate to serve on the council. They are Senator Glenn S. Anderson, (D-Westland) who serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee and the four related sub committees of economic development, transportation, higher education and general government, and Senator Jud Gilbert (R-Algonac) who is the chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation, and is the vice-chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture. He also serves as Vice-chair of the Senate Finance Committee, as a member of the Commerce and Tourism Committee, as well as the Economic Development, Small Business and Regulatory Reform Committee. We welcome the senators to the council and look forward to their participation.

Please join me in congratulating Alisande Henry as the new manager of the Advisory Administration Unit (AAU) and lead staff to CLEG. Many of you already know Alisande, especially the new Council members, since she has worked as our department's liaison to the Governor's Appointment's Office. For those of you who do not, I know you will be impressed by her dedication and professionalism.

Alisande has represented the Department of Labor & Economic Growth (DLEG) on a number of initiatives including Michigan Prisoner Reentry, Apprenticeships, Cities of Promise, and the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors. The appointment of Alisande to the manager position will fully staff the AAU, providing the Council with consistent staff support.

For more information on the council's activities, please visit the CLEG website at [www.michigan.gov/cleg](http://www.michigan.gov/cleg).

Please give the new Council members and Alisande a warm welcome.

### **3. Michigan's Youth Forum Committee Receives Federal Funding**

The Michigan Youth Forum Committee will receive \$120,000 from the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA) to implement a pilot project to establish better coordination of youth services at both the state and local levels. The focus will be on the developing successful partnerships and coordination of services and resources resulting in increased positive outcomes for Michigan's foster youth.

DLEG serves as the lead agency for the Michigan Youth Forum Committee. Partners/Team Members include Governor's Office, Michigan Works!, Department of Human Services, Department of Education, Michigan Rehabilitation Services, MiConnections, and the Hannahville Indian Community.

The success of this pilot program hinges on making the most of federal, state, and local interagency collaboration. If you represent a youth program that is not participating on the Michigan Youth Forum Committee, please contact Virginia Abdo, DLEG-Bureau of Workforce Programs at 517-373-4472 or [abdov@michigan.gov](mailto:abdov@michigan.gov).

#### **4. Three Michigan Partnerships Apply for Ex-offender Grant from USDOL**

The USDOL/ETA recently announced the availability of approximately \$5 million dollars grant funds to address the workforce challenges of ex-offenders. This is a great opportunity to work with the Department of Corrections and the Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative to help ex-offenders receive services and training, enter and retain employment, and avoid recidivism.

Looks like partnerships in three Michigan locations have applied for the grant, including the City of Detroit, Kent County, and Oakland County. It would be a wonderful thing to have Michigan receive 3 of the 5 grants available nationwide!

Here is the link to the announcement just in case you did not see it: [Preparing Ex-Offenders for the Workplace Through Beneficiary-Choice Contracting](#).

Remember to visit our website, [www.michigan.gov/nwlb](http://www.michigan.gov/nwlb) for future updates. We're always open to additional ideas!

More to come soon . . .

Best Regards,

*Andy Levin*

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